

# To the Shopping Public

## The U. S. Government Requests

(Through the Council of National Defense)

**That the Merchants of the District of Columbia Co-operate With the National Government in the Elimination of Waste by:**

### Here Is the Request of the District Council of Defense to the Local Merchants

January 5, 1918.

To the Retail Merchants of Washington.

The unusual freight congestion existing in Washington at the present time makes it necessary for us to earnestly request all merchants to make immediately the adjustments in their business that are recommended by the Commercial Economy Board of the Council of National Defense.

In the spirit of these recommendations for a curtailment of retail services, at a meeting held on January 4 at the office of the Commercial Economy Board, at which the chairman of the special committee of this Council on Retail Deliveries was present, a group of the large Department Store merchants of Washington decided on the adoption of these war-time measures of **one delivery a day over each route and the elimination of the unnecessary work connected with return merchandise, C. O. D. sales and special deliveries.**

These merchants are to be commended for promptly making these changes in their established business routine. By their action they are making an important contribution to the immediate national and local needs. The equipment thus released from making unnecessary deliveries is expected to afford substantial relief to the existing inbound freight congestion.

The District Council of Defense believes that the public will readily accommodate themselves to this restricted service as a means of individual co-operation with the merchants in meeting the present emergency, especially as the savings resulting from the adoption of these plans will be reflected in closer prices on merchandise.

The District Council of Defense now calls upon all other retail merchants to make similar adjustments in their business, as all are expected to co-operate with these plans.

DISTRICT COUNCIL OF DEFENSE.

Wm. H. Baldwin, Chairman.

In preparing these new regulations every effort has been made to consider the convenience of customers, while following the strict injunctions of the Government concerning the conservation of man-power and war material.

- (1) **Restricting Deliveries to One a Day**  
Beginning Monday, January 7th, 1918, there shall be not more than one delivery in any one day over any route in any part of the District of Columbia.
- (2) **Curtailing Return Goods Privilege**  
The return of merchandise of all kinds shall be limited to three days from day of purchase.
- (3) **Elimination of ALL Special Deliveries**  
The practice of having goods sent by special Delivery shall be entirely abolished.
- (4) **Deposit on All C. O. D.'s**  
The following deposit shall be required on C. O. D. purchases. 10% of the total amount of the purchase with a minimum deposit of 25c, said deposit to be NON-RETURNABLE. No C. O. D. orders taken by phone.

A careful reading of them will show that they impose no hardship on the purchasing public—merely the use of a little more thought in the selection of goods and the very slight inconvenience of carrying home small packages instead of having them sent.

### Deliveries in the District and in the Suburbs Will Be As Follows:

#### City Deliveries—8 A.M.

From 10th Street N.W. West to and on 37th Street.  
North at Georgetown to and Including 1900 Block on You St.  
North at Conn. Ave. to and Including 2300 Block.  
North at 14th St. to and on Shepherd St.  
North at 7th St. to and on Shepherd St.

#### City Deliveries—2 P.M.

East of 10th Street N.W., Also the Entire Northeast, Southeast and Southwest, Including Anacostia and Vicinity

#### Suburban Deliveries—8 A.M.

Not More Than One Delivery in Any One Day by Any One Store

**Goldenberg's**      **King's Palace**      **Hecht & Co.**      **Lansburgh & Bro.**  
**S. Kann, Sons & Co.**      **Woodward & Lothrop**      **Palais Royal,** A. Lisner